

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Slip End Parish Council held on Monday 13th May 2019 at the Village Hall, Slip End at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Cllr. P Cooper (Chair); Cllr. S Minnighan; Cllr. T Hooker
Cllr. C Brennan; Cllr. C Beeton; Cllr. S Patterson; Cllr. P Shaw.
Ward Councillor; Cllr. E. Perry

Also Present: Peter Segal – Clerk
Three members of the public were present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Elections: Cllr Paul Cooper was proposed as Chair by Cllr. Minnighan. This was seconded by Cllr. Brennan and was unanimously supported.

Cllr. Brennan proposed Cllr. Minnighan as Vice Chair and this was seconded by Cllr. Cooper and was unanimously supported.

It was thereby resolved that Cllr. Cooper would be Chair and Cllr. Minnighan be Vice Chair for the coming year.

Apologies: Cllr. K Collins

Appointment of Committees and Representatives

The Special Interest List was discussed.

Cllr. Shaw was added to the Aley Green Committee and given responsibility for Monuments. Cllr Brennan assumed responsibility for Airport expansion and noise issues and Cllr. Hooker was proposed to attend Case4 meetings, subject to their agreement.

These changes were proposed by Cllr. Cooper and seconded by Cllr. Brennan
Full list and other minor changes can be seen on our website

www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Minutes of last Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (May 2018)

The Clerk provided all members with a copy of these Minutes (Originally circulated last May). The Minutes were proposed by Cllr. Beeton and seconded by Cllr. Minnighan, and duly signed by the Chair.

Review of Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders

The Clerk had previously circulated the Standing Orders to Members.

The Standing Orders were proposed by Cllr Shaw and seconded by Cllr Brennan and was unanimously supported.

These can be found on our website: www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Approval of Risk Assessment

The Clerk had already circulated the proposed 2019 Risk Assessment. Acceptance of the 2019 Risk Assessment was proposed by Cllr. Minnighan and Seconded by Cllr. Brennan and was unanimously supported.

These can be found on our website: www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Schedule of Meeting Dates

The Clerk circulated a list of proposed meeting dates to all Councillors (Further copies of the date list are available from the Clerk) These were unanimously agreed by Members.

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The meeting was then followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish, chaired by Cllr. Cooper

Cllr. Cooper presented his Chairman`s Report for 2018/19 and took the opportunity to relate the Parish Councils achievements for the past year. His Report is attached as **Appendix A.**

There was no Ward Councillors Report available, due to recent elections.

There being no further business, the Annual Meeting of the Parish was closed at 7.20pm.

Signed.....
Chair

Date.....

Appendix A

Slip End Parish Council Annual Report 2018/2019

At the start of the year, the developer Black Shu presented proposals for new developments at Half Moon Lane and Markyate Road. The Parish Council were approached for their feedback prior to formal planning applications being submitted. The development at Half Moon Lane for affordable housing did not move forward to a full application.

Following a public display giving residents the opportunity to comment on the proposals, a planning application for a retirement village in Markyate Road was submitted. This was rejected by Central Bedfordshire planners for several reasons. A second application has been submitted which aims to address concerns raised by residents and planners about the first application. This will be discussed at the next Central Bedfordshire Development Management Committee meeting. If permission is granted, this retirement village will provide opportunities for elderly residents to remain in the Parish and will bring much needed employment.

In addition to small building proposals, there have been two larger schemes submitted by developers through the year. Currently being considered by planners is a care home facility in Front Street. An affordable housing development in Woodside Road was rejected by planners. Both are within the green belt and were objected to by the Parish Council.

This year has seen the completion of developments at the old chapel on Front Street and Prebendal Farm in Grove Road. The Grove Road development is now called Farmers View.

The traffic calming project has continued to be evaluated during the year. Following a speed survey in Lower Woodside Road, it has been decided to address the speeding problem in this area. At the beginning of 2019 Parish Council successfully applied for match funding from Central Bedfordshire Council to half fund this project. We are awaiting formal plans for a speed table to be installed in the vicinity of the former Harrow public house.

Following the review of the traffic calming project, the Parish Council have concluded that there is no need for further measures at this time. There is a residual sum of money in the traffic calming reserve and it was decided that this will become a Community Improvement Fund to enable projects improving the facilities and appearance of the Parish as well as any future traffic calming. In addition to the traffic calming in Woodside Road, there are two other projects which the Council have approved using this fund.

There will be hanging baskets sited on selected lamp posts and at the entrances to the Parish. These will be supplied and planted by an outside contractor and maintained by our gardening contractor. Local business Bell Classics has kindly agreed to meet half of the cost of these for two years. The Parish Council are extremely grateful for their

kind support and are sure these will provide a beautiful splash of colour through the summer months.

At Crawley Playground, many pieces of equipment have been removed over the years due to becoming dangerous and the remaining pieces have come to the end of their life. Cllr. Minnighan and Mr. Prothero have investigated the types of play equipment available and have visited the SALTEX trade exhibition. Four contractors were asked to submit plans and costings to refurbish the playground and their proposals were discussed at the April Parish Council meeting. It was decided the suppliers Kompan would complete the refurbishment and this has now been instructed. Work to the trees and undergrowth has already been undertaken and the full refurbishment is envisaged to be completed in time for the school summer holidays. This will provide the Parish with an excellent state of the art playground.

Other areas the Parish Council have supported this year include funding for a security bar fitted at the gates to the Playing Fields. This will help to stop any potential invasion of caravans. The Slip End website has been subject to several hacking activities during the year and the Parish Council have now commissioned their own website. You can find minutes of meetings, information on your councillors and many other pieces of information at www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk.

The churchyard at St. Andrews Church is the responsibility of the Parish Council and several of the trees were becoming overgrown. Some of these were at risk of damaging the Church building, some were in danger of falling or breaking in high winds and others were making the churchyard dark and gloomy creating hazards for the public. After permission was obtained from the Diocese, work to rectify the problems were completed earlier this year.

The gritter owned jointly by Caddington and Slip End Parish Councils has been replaced this year and we continue to provide gritting on roads not covered by Central Bedfordshire Council during the worst weather. The Parish council continues to fund the Community Projects Group which provides support to many groups and associations within the Parish as well as running the Good Neighbour Scheme. We part fund the Parish News enabling it to be delivered free of charge to every home.

The budget was maintained this year and we would like to thank the Clerk and Cllr Brennan for keeping us on track. I would also like to thank the Ward Councillors, Kevin Collins and Richard Stay for their support over the past year. A special thank you goes to my fellow Councillors for all their support and advice throughout the year.

Paul Cooper
Chair
Slip End Parish Council